

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

You are directly responsible for the current dangerous situation by allowing the unrestrained consolidation of corporate media. The very least you can do now is to insist on balanced and unbiased news and public affairs reportage and programming. You have not done your job properly in the past...step up to the plate now and do it NOW. The public is watching you and deserves and expects better performance from you than you have delivered in the past. Do not let Sinclair get away with this!!! Thank you!